24

25

26

27

28

1	P. STERLING KERR, ESQ.
2	Nevada Bar No. 3978 PETER R. PRATT, ESQ.
3	Nevada Bar No. 6458 LAW OFFICES OF P. STERLING KERR
4	2450 St. Rose Parkway, Suite 120 Henderson, Nevada 89074
5	Telephone No. (702) 451–2055 Facsimile No. (702) 451-2077
6	Email: sterling@sterlingkerrlaw.com Email: peter@sterlingkerrlaw.com
7	Attorneys for Plaintiffs
8	UNITED STATE DISTRIC
9	
10	INTERNATIONAL MARKETS LIVE, INC., a New York corporation dba iMARKETSLIVE;
11	,
12	Plaintiffs, v.
13	ADAEZE W. DUNCAN, an individual;
14	Defendant.
15	
16	
17	
18	COMES NOW, Plaintiff by and th
19	Kerr, complain and allege against Defenda
20	PARTIES, JURIS
21	1. Plaintiff International Marko
22	corporation whose primary place of busine

NITED STATES	DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT	OF NEVADA

Case No.: 2:19-cv-2053

COMPLAINT FOR:

- 1) BREACH OF CONTRACT;
- 2) VIOLATION OF UNIFORM TRADE SECRETS ACT
- 3) DEFAMATION PER SE;
- 4) TORTIOUS INTERFERENCE WITH CONTRACTUAL RELATIONS; and
- 5) TORTIOUS INTERFERENCE WITH PROSPECTIVE ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE;

COMES NOW, Plaintiff by and through its attorneys, the Law Offices of P. Sterling Kerr, complain and allege against Defendant ADAEZE W. DUNCAN as follows:

PARTIES, JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. Plaintiff International Markets Live (hereinafter "IML") is a New York corporation whose primary place of business is Las Vegas, Nevada.
- 2. Defendant ADAEZE W. DUNCAN (hereinafter "Duncan") is an individual residing in Iowa.
- 3. This Court has diversity subject matter jurisdiction of this action. The Court has diversity jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332 because no Plaintiffs and Defendants are residents of the same state, and because the amount in controversy, exclusive of interest and costs, exceeds seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000.00).

4. Venue is proper as IML's primary place of business is Las Vegas.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

- 5. IML is a company that provides its customers with educational tools and information to trade foreign and crypto currencies ("Forex Trading").
- 6. IML's products are distributed under a direct sales model and are offered to individuals on a subscription basis. IML's products help IML provide customers with technology, education, and research for Forex Trading.
- 7. IML contracts with IBOs in an independent contractor relationship to effectuate the direct sales model of its products and services. These contracts are called Independent Business Owner ("IBO") Agreements.
- 8. All IML IBOs become IBOs of IML products only after entering into an IBO Agreement requiring the IML distributor to agree to IML's Policies and Procedures.
- 9. The IBO states that each distributor has carefully read and agrees to comply with IML's Policies and Procedures.
 - 10. IML's Policies and Procedures require, among other things, that:
- IBOs may not directly or indirectly recruit other IBOs or customers for other network marketing businesses;
- IBOs may not participate as a distributor in another network marketing company that sells and distributes similar products to IML;
- IBOs must not sell, or attempt to sell, any competing non-IML programs, products, or services to IML IBOs or customers;
 - The Confidentiality Provision in the Policies and Procedures states:

During the term of the Agreement, Company may supply to Independent Affiliates confidential information, including, but not limited to genealogical and Downline reports, customer lists, customer information developed by Company or developed for and on behalf of Company by Independent Affiliates (including, but not limited to, credit data, customer and Independent Affiliate profiles and product purchase information), Independent Affiliate lists, manufacturer and supplier information, business reports, commission or dales reports and such other financial and business information which Company may designate as confidential. All such information (whether in written or electronic format) is proprietary and confidential to Company and is transmitted to Independent Affiliates in strictest confidence on a "need to know" basis for use solely in Independent Affiliates business with Company.

Independent Affiliates must use their best efforts to keep such information confidential and must not disclose any such information to any third party or use this information for any non-company activity directly or indirectly while on Independent Affiliate and thereafter.

- 11. Defendant Duncan entered into an IBO Agreement requiring the IBO to agree to IML's Policies and Procedures.
- 12. At all times relevant herein, Duncan knew and were aware of the terms of the IML Policies and Procedures, including the prohibitions against recruiting IML IBOs and traders to leave IML, the prohibition against working for a competitor of IML, and the prohibition against providing Confidential Information and intellectual property to anyone outside of IML.
- 13. Duncan became an educator for IML and became privy to numerous IML trade secrets and proprietary information.
 - 14. Duncan also signed a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) on January 12, 2019.
- 15. The Non-Disclosure Agreement described the Confidential Information included in the NDA as follows:

Technical and business information relating to proprietary ideas, patentable ideas and/or trade secrets, existing and/or contemplated products and services, research and development, production, costs, profit and margin information, finances and financial projections, customers, clients, marketing, and current or future business plans and models, regardless of whether such information is designated as "Confidential Information" at the time of its disclosure.

In addition to the above, Confidential Information shall also include, and the parties shall have a duty to protect, other confidential and/or sensitive information which is (a) disclosed as such in writing and marked as confidential (or with similar designation) at the time of disclosure; and/or (b) disclosed by in any other manner and identified as confidential in a written memorandum delivered within thirty (30) days of the disclosure.

- 16. While an educator with IML, Duncan created online discussion groups and chat pages for IML to communicate with her and for her to share information with them.
- 17. Duncan breached IML's Policies and Procedures as well as her NDA by using trade secret and confidential information to recruit IML IBOs to her new business which is a nearly identical business providing finance training.

///

- 18. Duncan utilized her online resources established while under contract with IML to solicit, recruit, and entice other IML IBOs and traders away from IML and to her new businesses.
- Duncan intentionally and knowingly solicited, enticed, and recruited IML
 IBOs and traders to leave IML and to work for her new businesses.
- 20. Duncan knowingly, intentionally, and wrongfully took Confidential Information and intellectual property from IML.
- 21. Duncan knowingly, intentionally, and wrongfully used the Confidential Information and intellectual property she took from IML to build up her new businesses, which relate direct to training individuals for trading in foreign exchange.
- 22. Based upon information and belief, Duncan knowingly and intentionally published false statements on social media platforms regarding IML, its employees, and IBOs.
- 23. Defendant published these false statements against IML in order to promote her new businesses.
 - 24. IML has suffered financial harm as a result of Duncan's wrongful conduct.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Breach of Contract)

- 25. IML incorporates by reference and reaffirms each and every allegation previously asserted as if fully set forth herein.
- 26. Duncan entered into, or otherwise agreed to be, and was bound by the IBO contract with IML as well as the NDA.
- 27. At all relevant times herein, IML performed the obligations and duties required of him by the contracts she had between IML and Duncan.
- 28. Duncan breached her contracts with IML by failing to conform to the terms of the agreement, namely by taking confidential and trade secret information from IML for use by new her business.

///

///

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	

///

- 29. The breaches of the contracts by Duncan have caused damages to IML excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00).
- 30. IML is entitled to its reasonable attorney's fees due to Defendant' breach of the agreements.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Misappropriation and Violation of Uniform Trade Secrets Act – Nevada Revised Statues

Chapter 600A)

- 31. IML incorporates by reference and reaffirms each and every allegation previously asserted as if fully set forth herein.
- 32. Defendant acquired IML's trade secrets as an educator for IML and by being given access following her signing a NDA with IML.
- 33. Defendant misappropriated IML's trade secrets by disclosing the trade secrets without express or implied consent from IML, including those trade secrets that were obtained without authorization from IML.
- 34. Defendant further misappropriated IML's trade secrets by using the trade secrets without express or implied consent from IML.
 - 35. Defendant had a duty to maintain the secrecy of IML's trade secrets.
- 36. As a result of Defendant' misappropriation of IML's trade secrets, IML has suffered damages to be determined at trial in excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00).
- 37. IML is entitled to exemplary damages due to Defendant' willful and malicious misappropriation of IML's trade secrets in excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00).
- 38. IML is entitled to its reasonable attorney's fees and costs due to Defendant' willful and malicious misappropriation of IML's trade secrets.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Defamation Per Se)

39. IML incorporates by reference and reaffirms each and every allegation previously asserted as if fully set forth herein.

///

- 40. Defendant made statements on social media and through other means to IML IBOs and customers which tend to harm the reputation of the IML in the estimation of the community and deter third persons from associating or dealing with IML.
 - 41. The statements are false.
 - 42. The statements were intentionally published on the internet and in person.
- 43. The statements constitute the imputation that IML has a lack of fitness for trade, business, or profession.
- 44. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant' defamatory acts, IML has been harmed in amount in excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00).
- 45. It has been necessary for IML to retain the services of an attorney to prosecute this action and, therefore, IML is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Tortious Interference with Contractual Relations)

- 46. IML incorporates by reference and reaffirms each and every allegation previously asserted as if fully set forth herein.
- 47. IML had contractual relationships with customers and individual representatives who are receiving educational products for Forex markets in exchange for monetary compensation.
 - 48. Defendant knew of these relationships.
- 49. Defendant spread false information and used IML's confidential information and trade secrets to form relationships with IML's customers for Duncan's gain.
 - 50. Defendant's conduct was not legally justified.
- 51. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's interference with IML's contractual relationships, IML has been harmed in amount in excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00).
- 52. It has been necessary for IML to retain the services of an attorney to prosecute this action and, therefore, IML is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Tortious Interference with Prospective Economic Advantage)

- 53. IML incorporates by reference and reaffirms each and every allegation previously asserted as if fully set forth herein.
- 54. IML had prospective contractual relationships with customers and individual representatives who desired to participate in receiving educational products for Forex markets.
 - 55. Defendant knew of these prospective relationships.
- 56. Defendant spread false information and used IML's confidential information and trade secrets with the intent of preventing and inhibiting IML's relationships with the prospective customers.
 - 57. Defendant's conduct was not legally justified.
- 58. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's interference with the prospective customer relationships, IML has been harmed in amount in excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00).
- 59. It has been necessary for IML to retain the services of an attorney to prosecute this action and, therefore, IML is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF PRAYS FOR THE FOLLOWING RELIEF AGAINST DEFENDANT:

- 1. For Damages in an amount greater than \$1,000,000.00 as a result of Defendant's unlawful actions;
 - 2. For injunctive relief to enjoin the Defendant from the following:
 - Defendant shall immediately refrain from using any IML customer list, trademark, trade secret, program information, or any other confidential information and/or materials, including downlines, back-office data, binary options trading software, and binary options trading algorithms;
 - Defendant shall immediately refrain from disclosing any IML customer list, trademark, trade secret, program information, or any other confidential information

2

4

3

5

7 8

9

10

1112

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

and/or materials:

- Defendant shall immediately return any equipment, or other materials,
 including but not limited to, hard copies of documents and/or data, electronic copies of documents and/or data, emails, and any other material containing or referring to any
 IML customer list, trademark, trade secret, program information, or any other confidential information and/or materials;
- Defendant shall immediately refrain from conducting and soliciting any business, accepting any employment by or rendering professional services to, any person or organization that is or was an IML distributor, trader, and/or client, nor allow her agents or business associates or business to conduct business with those Defendant who are former IML IBOs or traders; and
- Defendant shall immediately refrain from soliciting, recruiting, bribing, and/or enticing IML IBOs and/or traders to violate their contracts with IML and/or misappropriate IML's Confidential Information and/or intellectual property.
- 3. For an award of pre-judgment interest, as well as reasonable attorneys' fees as both normal and special damages, and other costs; and
 - For such other and further relief that this Court deems just and proper.
 Dated this 27th day of November 2019

LAW OFFICES OF P. STERLING KERR

/s/ Peter R. Pratt, Esq.

P. STERLING KERR, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 3978

PETER R. PRATT, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 6458

LAW OFFICES OF P. STERLING KERR

2450 St. Rose Parkway, Suite 120

Henderson, Nevada 89074

Telephone No. (702) 451-2055

Facsimile No. (702) 451-2077

Email: sterling@sterlingkerrlaw.com

Email: peter@sterlingkerrlaw.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff